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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4222  
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 5481  
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 1329  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 5282  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0892  
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ APR LIMA 1818  
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 5076  
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 5485  
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 0722  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC  
RHMFISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL  
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RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 000887

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/19/2016  
TAGS: [OVIP](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [AR](#)  
SUBJECT: ARGENTINA ON VENEZUELA'S TREATMENT OF AMBASSADOR  
AND POTENTIAL UNSC SEAT

REF: STATE 60604

Classified By: Ambassador Lino Gutierrez, Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) Ambassador, accompanied by POLOFF, delivered reftel points April 18 to FM Jorge Taiana regarding the April 7 attack on Ambassador Brownfield and four similar attacks over the last seven months. Taiana had been unaware of the earlier incidents and thanked the Ambassador for bringing them to his attention.

[1](#)2. (C) The Ambassador took the opportunity to again raise our objections to Venezuela serving on the UN Security Council, saying that Guatemala or another candidate agreed upon by South American governments would serve the region much better. He pointed out that Venezuela had openly aligned itself with countries like Iran and had played a very disruptive role in other international fora, most recently at the Inter American Committee on Terrorism (CICTE) meeting in Bogota.

[1](#)3. (C) Taiana said he understood U.S. objections to Venezuela serving on the UNSC, but said that it would be very difficult for the GOA not to support a South American candidacy. He added that "isolating" Venezuela ran the risk of turning it into "another Cuba." Taiana agreed that working with the Venezuelans in multilateral organizations could be very hard and he wasn't sure "how this will all turn out."

[1](#)4. (C) Ambassador countered that there was no discernible evidence that Venezuela had moderated its behavior because of Argentine or Brazilian efforts. He reminded Taiana that he himself had been a victim of Venezuelan nastiness, when the Venezuelan Ambassador angrily walked out of a Taiana-hosted lunch in honor of Spanish FM Moratinos over a discussion about Iran. Taiana nodded, but had no further comment.

GUTIERREZ